

things to kindle fire every night because of the wild beasts, and to dress our meat. Every night, when we rested, my Indian guides would make two great fires, between which, we placed ourselves and my horse ; and in the night time, we should hear the lions' [!] roars, with tigers [!], ounces, and other beasts ; and some of them we should see in the night, which had eyes shining like fire.

And travelling thus for the space of twelve days, we came at last to the port of Cavallios, upon the East Sea ; distant from Guatemala, south-and-by-east, 200 leagues ; and from Mexico, 450 or thereabouts. This is a good harbour for ships, and it is without either Castle or Bulwark.

Having despatched away my guides, I went down to the haven, where I saw certain ships laden chiefly with Canary wines ; where I spake with one of the Masters, who asked me, "What countryman I was ? "

I told him that " I was born in Granada.'⁹

And he said, "Then I was his countryman."

I required him that " I might pass home with him, in his ship, paying for my passage."

And he said, "Yea, so that I had a safe conduct or letter testimonial to shew, that he might incur no danger : for," said he, " it may be you have killed some man, or be indebted : and would therefore run away."

To that, I answered, "There was not any such cause."

Well, in the end, we grew to a price, that for 60 pesos [*=fiz=about £100 now*], he would carry me into Spain.

A glad man was I at this good hap ! and I quickly sold my horse, and made my provision of hens and bread to serve me in my passage.

And thus, within two days after, we set sail, and never stayed until we came to the Havana ; which is distant from the port of Cavallios, by sea, 500 leagues : where we found the whole Fleet of Spain, which was bound home from the Indies.

And here, I was hired for a soldier, to serve in the Admiral's ship of the same Fleet, wherein the General himself went.

There landed while I was there, four ships out of being all full of soldiers and ordnance, of which number,